



Wagner Printing Company

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January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The antitrust suit brought against Microsoft was recently settled. Bill Gates made a good product; he took software and standardized it, making it understandable and comprehensible to the average layperson. Further, he made it affordable. Bill Gates, more than anyone, has been responsible for this country's technological dominance in the world. For this he has engendered jealousy from those firms who were not quite as good. This was the real basis for the antitrust case brought against Bill Gates, not any devious business dealings. But an agreement has been reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice and I want to give my support to this agreement.

Microsoft, additionally, has agreed to a great many demands by the Department of Justice. Microsoft has opened up its source codes to its Windows program to competitors. Microsoft has agreed to design future versions of Windows to accommodate non-Microsoft software, the company has even agreed to a technical committee to monitor future activities.

Our country needs to get back to business. I support the settlement, and look forward to seeing it swiftly implemented.

Sincerely,

Gerald Burkhalter